

**§ 404.360 When a child is dependent upon the insured person.**

One of the requirements for entitlement to child's benefits is that you be dependent upon the insured. The evidence you need to prove your dependency is determined by how you are related to the insured. To prove your dependency you may be asked to show that at a specific time you lived with the insured, that you received contributions for your support from the insured, or that the insured provided at least one-half of your support. These dependency requirements, and the time at which they must be met, are explained in §§ 404.361 through 404.365. The terms *living with*, *contributions for support*, and *one-half support* are defined in § 404.366.

**§ 404.361 When a natural child is dependent.**

(a) *Dependency of natural child.* If you are the insured's natural child, as defined in § 404.355, you are considered dependent upon him or her, except as stated in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Dependency of natural child legally adopted by someone other than the insured.* (1) Except as indicated in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, if you are legally adopted by someone other than the insured (your natural parent) during the insured's lifetime, you are considered dependent upon the insured only if the insured was either living with you or contributing to your support at one of the following times:

- (i) When you applied;
- (ii) When the insured died; or
- (iii) If the insured had a period of disability that lasted until he or she became entitled to disability or old-age benefits or died, at the beginning of the period of disability or at the time he or she became entitled to disability or old-age benefits.

(2) You are considered dependent upon the insured (your natural parent) if:

- (i) You were adopted by someone other than the insured after you applied for child's benefits; or
- (ii) The insured had a period of disability that lasted until he or she became entitled to old-age or disability benefits or died, and you are adopted by someone other than the insured

after the beginning of that period of disability.

[64 FR 14608, Mar. 26, 1999]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 64 FR 14608, Mar. 26, 1999, § 404.361 was revised, effective Apr. 26, 1999. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

**§ 404.361 When a natural child is dependent.**

If you are the insured's natural child, as defined in § 404.355, you are considered dependent upon him or her. However, if you are legally adopted by someone else during the insured's lifetime and after the adoption you apply for child's benefits on the insured's earnings record, you will be considered dependent upon the insured (your natural parent) only if he or she was either living with you or contributing to your support at one of these times—

- (a) When you applied;
- (b) When the insured died; or
- (c) If the insured had a period of disability that lasted until he or she died or became entitled to disability or old-age benefits, at the beginning of the period of disability or at the time he or she became entitled to benefits.

**§ 404.362 When a legally adopted child is dependent.**

(a) *General.* If you were legally adopted by the insured before he or she became entitled to old-age or disability benefits, you are considered dependent upon him or her. If you were legally adopted by the insured after he or she became entitled to old-age or disability benefits and you apply for child's benefits during the life of the insured, you must meet the dependency requirements stated in paragraph (b) of this section. If you were legally adopted by the insured after he or she became entitled to old-age or disability benefits and you apply for child's benefits after the death of the insured, you are considered dependent upon him or her. If you were adopted after the insured's death by his or her surviving spouse, you may be considered dependent upon the insured only under the conditions described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Adoption by the insured after he or she became entitled to benefits.* (1) *General.* If you are legally adopted by the insured after he or she became entitled to benefits and you are not the insured's natural child or stepchild, you